

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-12 EUR-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-11 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-02
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 TRSE-00 ABF-01
OMB-01 /181 W

-----034119 232346Z /61

R 232332Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2237

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02642

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, MARR, PARM, UNGA
SUBJECT: UN FINANCES: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF UNSSOD
MACHINERY PROPOSALS

1. IT NOW SEEMS REASONABLY CERTAIN THAT DECISIONS OF THE SSOD IN RELATION TO MACHINERY WILL HAVE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO PREDICT THE MAGNITUDE OF THOSE IMPLICATIONS. THIS WILL BECOME KNOWN ONLY WHEN THE FINAL DOCUMENTS OF THE SSOD REACH A MORE DEFINITIVE STAGE AND THE PRECISE ELEMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR COSTS TO THE ORGANIZATION CAN BETTER BE IDENTIFIED.

2. CURRENT CORRIDOR TALK SUGGESTS THAT THE 10TH SPECIAL SESSION WILL NOT FOLLOW THE REQUIREMENTS OF RULE 153 OF THE UNGA RULES OF PROCEDURE BUT WILL RATHER FOLLOW THE PRACTICE OF THE 6TH AND 7TH SPECIAL SESSIONS IN RESPECT TO DECISIONS WITH FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. THAT IS, THE SYG'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REFERRED TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS (ACABQ), THE FIFTH COMMITTEE WILL NOT BE CONVENED, AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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WILL SIMPLY APPROVE WITHOUT QUESTION THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. UNDER THE PRESSURE OF TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCE, THE SYG'S STATEMENT OBVIOUSLY CANNOT BE BASED UPON ANY SOUND OR REALISTIC ANALYSIS OF COST FACTORS.

3. THE SMALL AMOUNT (LESS THAN \$36,000) ENTAILED IN THE

ADOPTION OF COST RELATED DECISIONS BY THE 6TH SPECIAL SESSION AND THE ABUTMENT OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION UPON THE 30TH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY HAVE MADE THE FAILURE TO OBSERVE RULE 153 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE TOLERABLE IN THOSE CASES. THE SUMS INVOLVED IN DECISIONS OF THE 10TH SPECIAL SESSION SEEM CERTAIN TO BE FAR MORE IMPORTANT, AND THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF THE GA IS MORE THAN TWO MONTHS OFF.

4. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCELERATE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SSOD SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT A PROPER REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF PENDING DECISIONS. IT IS OBVIOUSLY EQUALLY IMPOSSIBLE POLITICALLY TO DEFER THE EFFECTUATION OF THOSE DECISIONS OR TO POSTPONE THEIR ADOPTION UNTIL A REGULAR BUDGET EXAMINATION COULD BE COMPLETED BY THE 33RD GA IN A PROPER MANNER.
NONETHELESS, THE GREATER FREQUENCY OF SPECIAL SESSIONS AND THEIR GROWING TENDENCY TO TAKE DECISIONS WITH COST IMPLICATIONS RECOMMEND AGAINST TACIT CONCURRENCE IN THE PERPETUATION OF THE PROCEDURE WHICH SEEMS ABOUT TO UNFOLD. UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY, THEREFORE, THE US DELEGATION WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE A STATEMENT ALONG THE LINES INDICATED BELOW AT THE TIME THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS IS BROUGHT UP FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE FINAL STAGES OF THE SSOD.

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"MR. PRESIDENT, MY DELEGATION DOES NOT AT THIS STAGE WISH TO OBJECT FORMALLY TO THE PROCEDURES SUGGESTED CONCERNING THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSALS BEFORE THIS ASSEMBLY. WE DO, HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT THE GROWING FREQUENCY OF SPECIAL SESSIONS AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THIS SPECIAL SESSION REQUIRE THAT IN THE FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS SHOULD BE SUCH THAT PROVISION IS MADE TO PERMIT THE FULL AND PROPER APPLICATION OF RULE 153 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE. THE RATIONALE FOR THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY RULE 153 APPLIES WITH EQUAL FORCE TO THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS ARISING FROM SPECIAL SESSIONS AND REGULAR SESSIONS. BOTH THE SECRETARIAT AND DELEGATIONS SHOULD IN THE FUTURE PLAN THE SCHEDULING AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL SESSIONS SO THAT SUFFICIENT TIME IS ALLOCATED TO PERMIT FULL COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 153."

5. THE US DELEGATION WOULD, OF COURSE, LOBBY SELECTED, LIKE MINDED DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRY DELEGATIONS TO ENDORSE THE ABOVE POSITION OR MAKE PARALLEL STATEMENTS.

6. IF QUERIED REGARDING MEASURES ENVISIONED BY LAST SENTENCE, USDEL WOULD SAY THAT FUTURE SPECIAL SESSIONS MIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, RECESS FOR WEEK TO 10 DAYS AFTER COMPLETING ALL SUBSTANTIVE RECOMMENDATIONS. SECRETARIAT COULD PREPARE ESTIMATES DURING RECESS AND ACABQ COULD REVIEW THEM. FIFTH COMMITTEE, WHICH CONSISTS MOSTLY OF NEW YORK-BASED EXPERTS, THEN COULD MEET AND APPROVE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. PLENARY THEN COULD RECONVENE TO ADOPT REPORT OF FIFTH COMMITTEE AND FINALIZE ACTION ON RESOLUTIONS HAVING FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. THERE

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WOULD BE NO NEED TO DETAIN SUBSTANTIVE EXPERT DELEGATES FOR THIS ESSENTIALLY PRO FORMA TASK, WHICH COULD BE FINISHED IN TWO DAYS. LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 23 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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